

Attorney Docket No.: UT-0030
Inventors: Rao et al.
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Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

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This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the claims:

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method of obtaining glial cells comprising:

(a) providing glial restricted precursor cells which are immunonegative for PDGF- α and PDGF- β receptors, which express A2B5 antigen and which are isolated by positive immunoselection with an A2B5 antibody selecting cells expressing A2B5 antigen; and

(b) plating the glial restricted precursor cells provided in step (a) under differentiating conditions, thereby causing the glial restricted precursor cells expressing A2B5 antigen which are immunonegative for PDGF- α and PDGF- β to differentiate into glial cells.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13 wherein said differentiating conditions comprise addition to growth medium of an effective amount of a factor that promotes differentiation into non-process bearing A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes and said glial cells are A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 14 wherein said

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factor that promotes differentiation into non-process bearing A2B5⁺ GFAP⁺ astrocytes comprises fetal calf serum.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 13 wherein said differentiating conditions comprise addition to growth medium of an effective amount of a factor that promotes differentiation into process bearing A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes and said glial cells are A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 16 wherein said factor that promotes differentiation into process bearing A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes comprises ciliary neurotrophic factor and basic fibroblast growth factor.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 13 wherein said differentiating conditions comprise addition to growth medium of an effective amount of a factor that promotes differentiation into oligodendrocytes and said glial cells are oligodendrocytes.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 18 wherein said factor that promotes differentiation into oligodendrocytes comprises platelet-derived growth factor and thyroid hormone (T3).

Claims 20-48 (canceled)

Claim 49 (currently amended): A method for continuously propagating glial restricted precursor cells immunonegative for PDGF- α and PDGF- β comprising the steps of:

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(a) providing said glial restricted precursor cells which are immunonegative for PDGF- α and PDGF- β receptors, which express A2B5 antigen and which are isolated by positive immunoselection with an A2B5 antibody ~~selecting cells expressing A2B5 antigen;~~ and

(b) culturing said glial restricted precursor cells provided in step (a) in vitro in the presence of minimal essential salts and effective amounts of platelet derived growth factor and fibroblast growth factor.